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GIJOE

image

#03



ENERGON UNIVERSE

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G.I. JOE

[MISSION LOG [01.003.01]]

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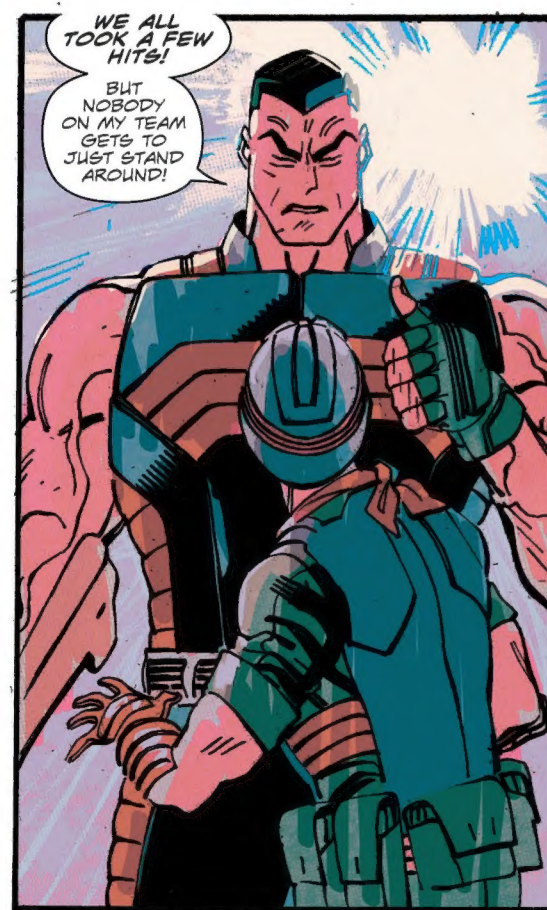
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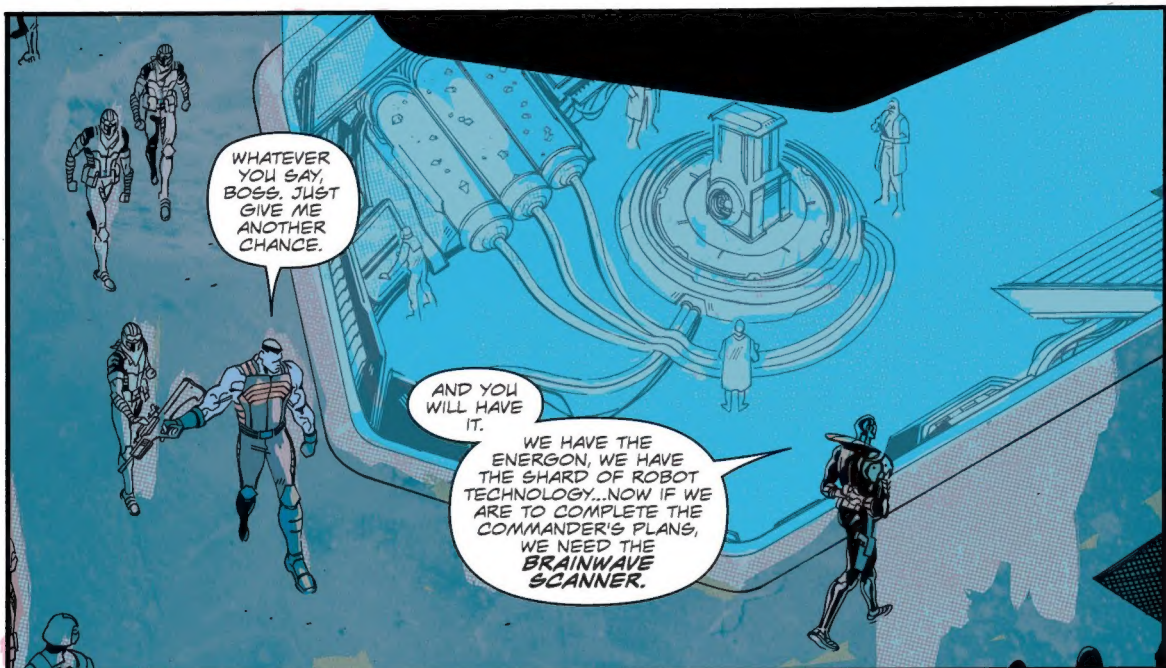
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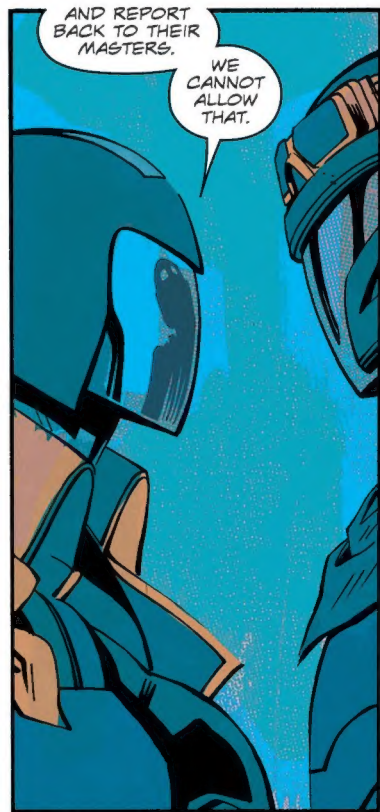
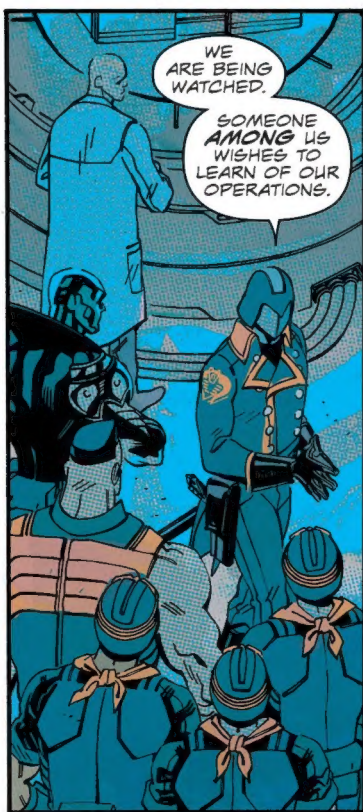
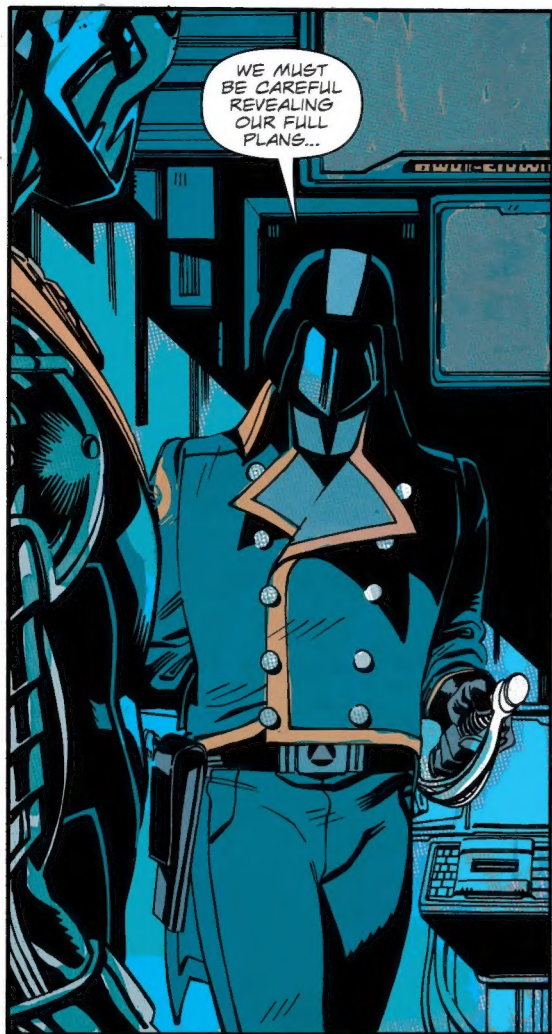
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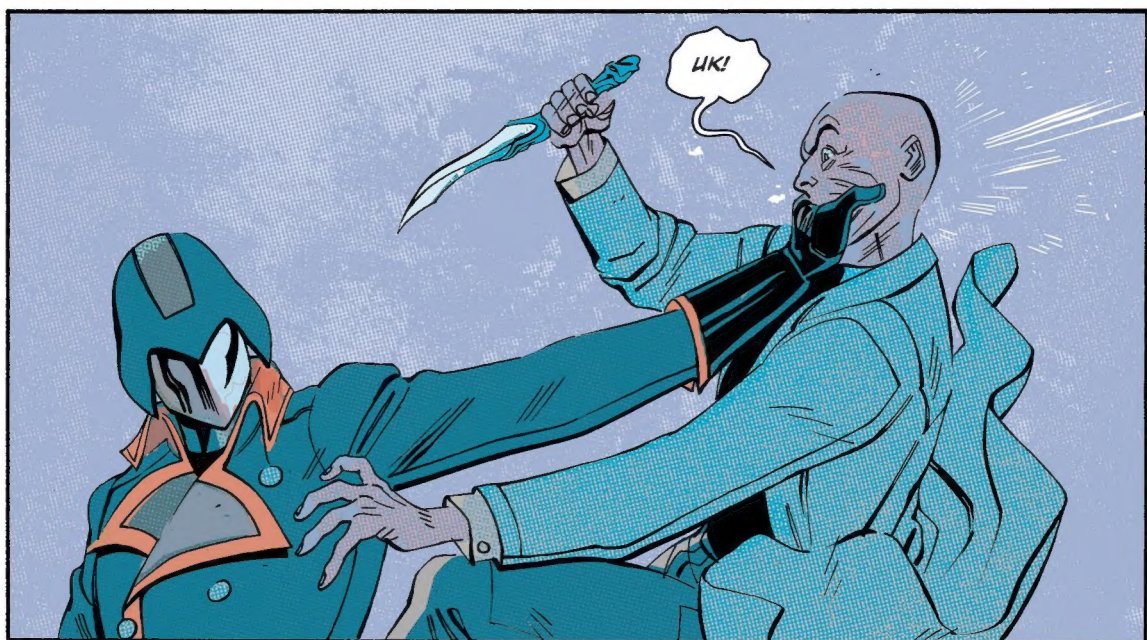
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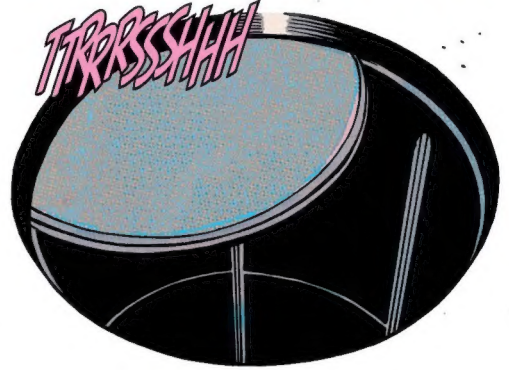
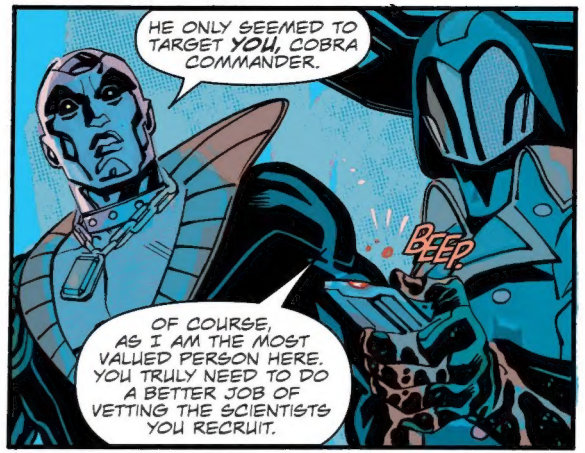








KRUNCH





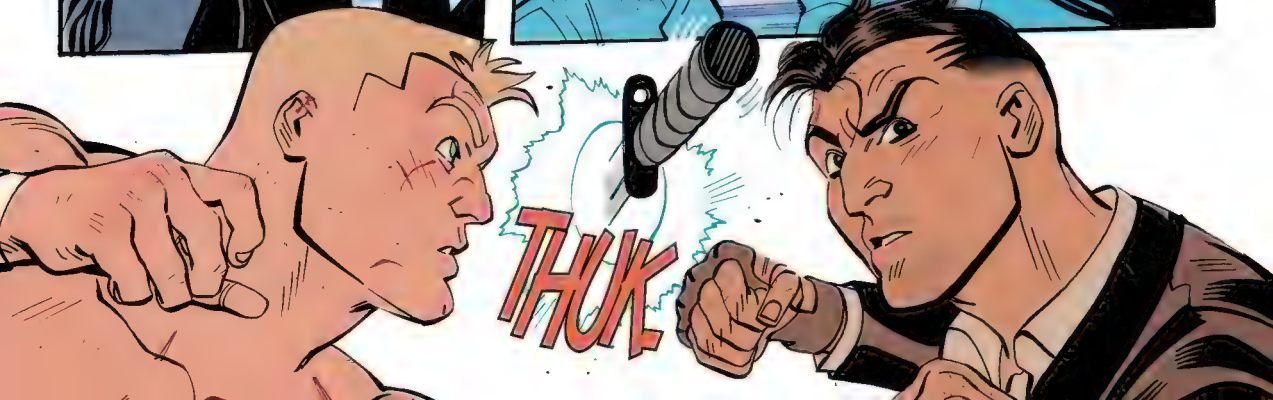
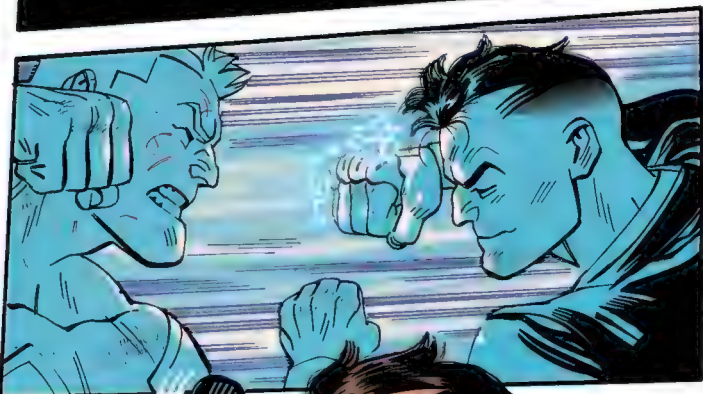
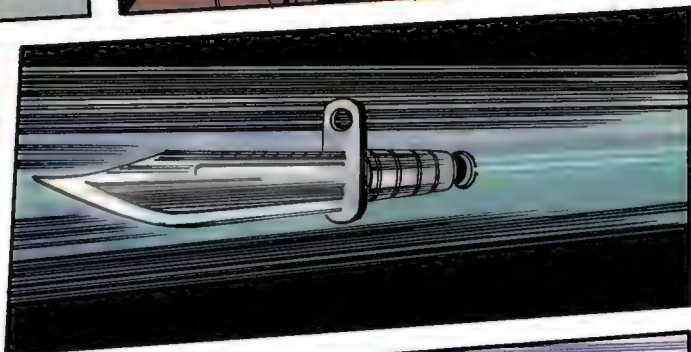
"...TO COMPLETE
THE MISSION
BEFORE ANYONE
FINDS OUT."

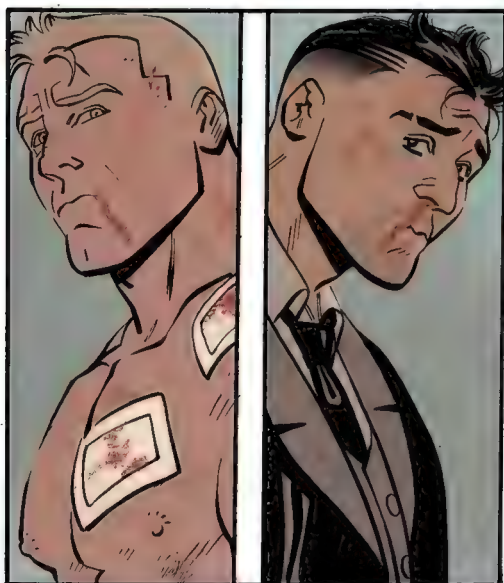
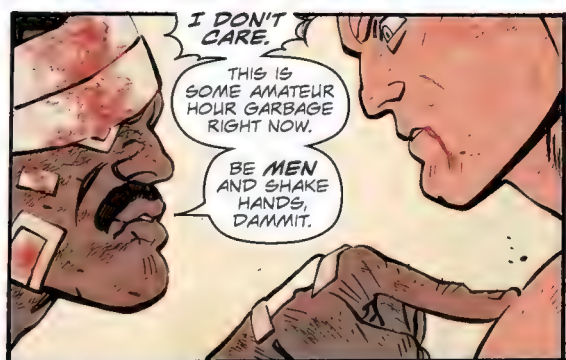
THE PIT.





TEAM
BUILDING?





"WE LOST IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE."



OKAY, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO RETRIEVE MUCH FROM THE LAB AFTER THE EXPLOSION, BUT WE HAVE PARTS OF THESE GUNS.

THEY BLEW THEM UP INSTEAD OF LETTING US GET OUR HANDS ON A WORKING ONE.

IT'S WHAT I WOULD DO, AS WELL.

YOU SAID THEY FIRED LASERS?

AT THIS SIZE AND THAT KIND OF FIRE POWER, THE ENERGY SOURCE WOULD HAVE TO BE OUT OF THIS WORLD.



THE BIG GUY WHO LED THE ATTACK WORKS FOR DESTRO.

BUT I THOUGHT DESTRO'S M.A.R.S. INDUSTRIES WAS ALSO ATTACKED RECENTLY.

WE'RE DEALING WITH A NEW PLAYER.



THIS.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT!

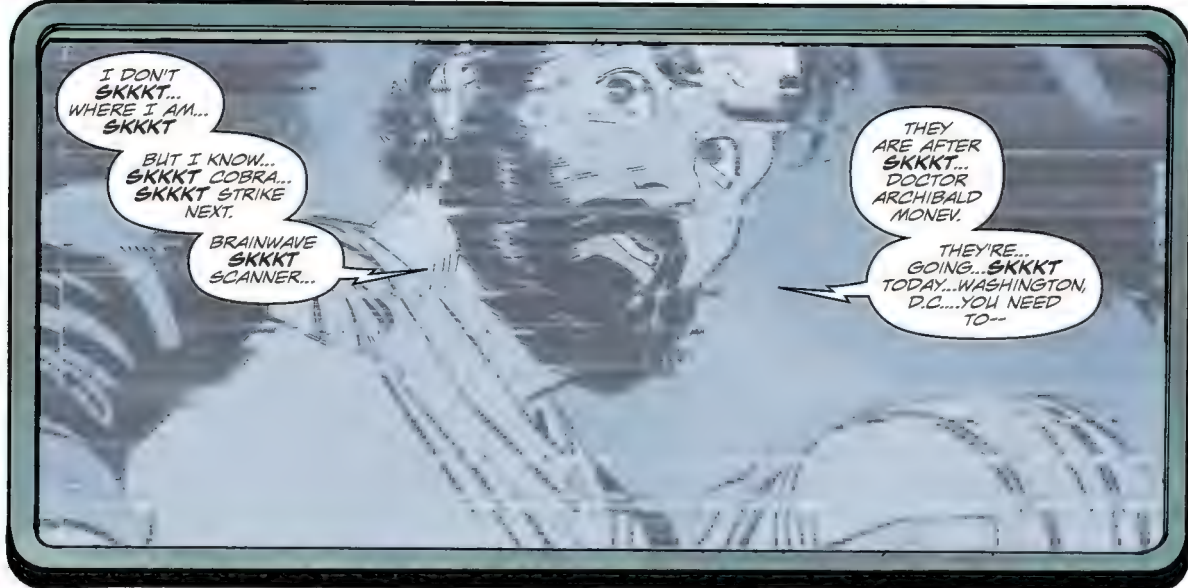


A MESSAGE CAME OVER THE SECURE LINE. IT'S GARBLED AND WE COULDN'T TRACK IT.

BUT YOU WANT TO HEAR THIS...

HEY, JOES, I HOPE YOU RECEIVE THIS... I ONLY HAVE A FEW SECONDS...





I DON'T
SKKKT...
WHERE I AM...
SKKKT

BUT I KNOW...
SKKKT COBRA...
SKKKT STRIKE
NEXT.

BRAINWAVE
SKKKT
SCANNER...

THEY
ARE AFTER
SKKKT...
DOCTOR
ARCHIBALD
MONEY.

THEY'RE...
GOING...SKKKT
TODAY...WASHINGTON,
D.C....YOU NEED
TO--



KKZZZZT.

THAT
WAS ALL
WE GOT.
BUT
CLUTCH IS
ALIVE.



JOES.
YOU HEARD
HIM. WE
NEED TO
MOVE
FAST.

GET
THE JET
FIRED
UP!



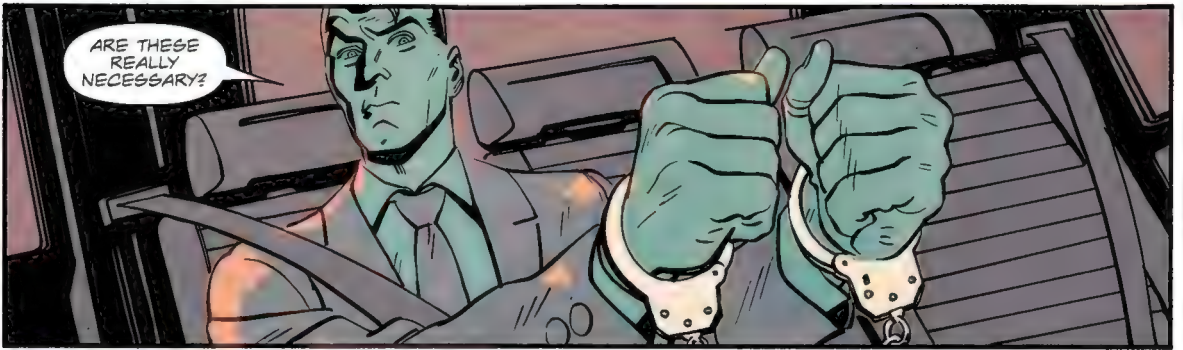
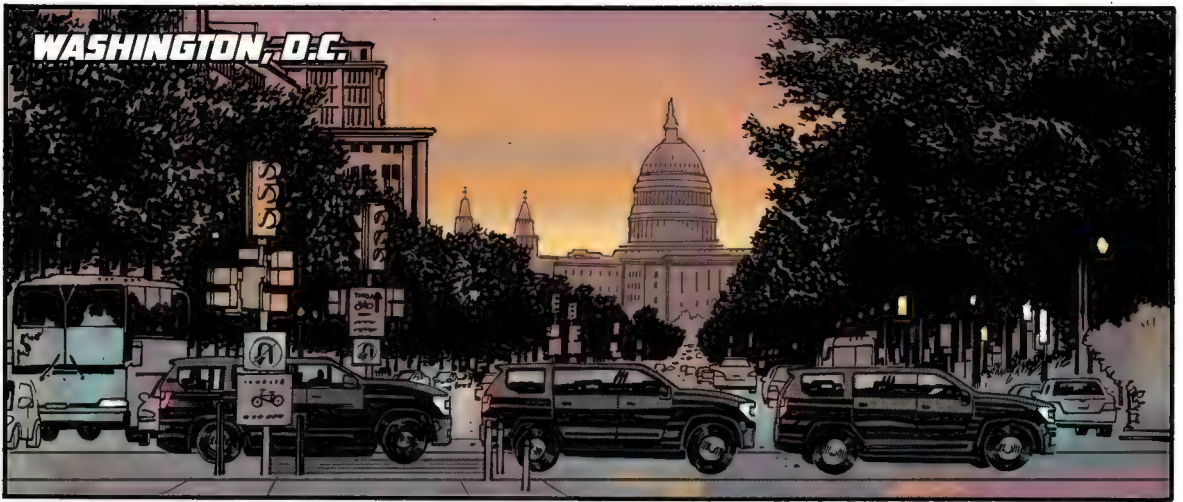
THAT'S A PROBLEM,
DUKE. MONEY WILL BE
APPEARING IN FRONT
OF CONGRESS IN
ABOUT SIX
HOURS.

WE
ALREADY HAVE
HIM IN CUSTODY,
WE JUST NEED
TO GET TO HIM
BEFORE THEY
DO.



EXCUSE ME...
WHO THE HELL
IS DOCTOR
ARCHIBALD
MONEY?

WASHINGTON, D.C.



ARE THESE
REALLY
NECESSARY?



DOCTOR
MONEY, THIS
IS NOT A
VACATION.

OUR
BOSSSES SAID
TO KEEP YOU
SAFE AND
SECURE, SO THAT
IS WHAT I'M
DOING TODAY.



H.M.

WHAT YOU
AND YOUR SMALL-
MINDED AUTHORITY
REFUSE TO
UNDERSTAND IS
THAT MY BRAINWAVE
SCANNER IS THE
FUTURE.

IT WILL
HELP US
BETTER
UNDERSTAND
THE HUMAN
MIND.



YOU MEAN TO
BETTER **CONTROL**
SOMEONE'S MIND?
REPROGRAM PEOPLE
SO YOU CAN
TURN THEM INTO
SLAVES?

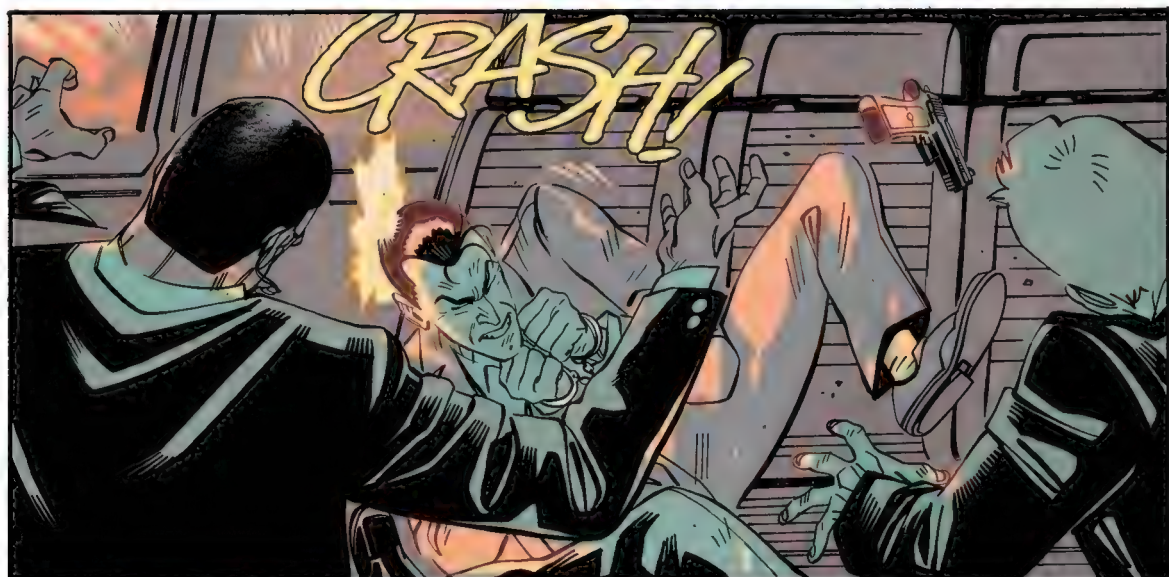
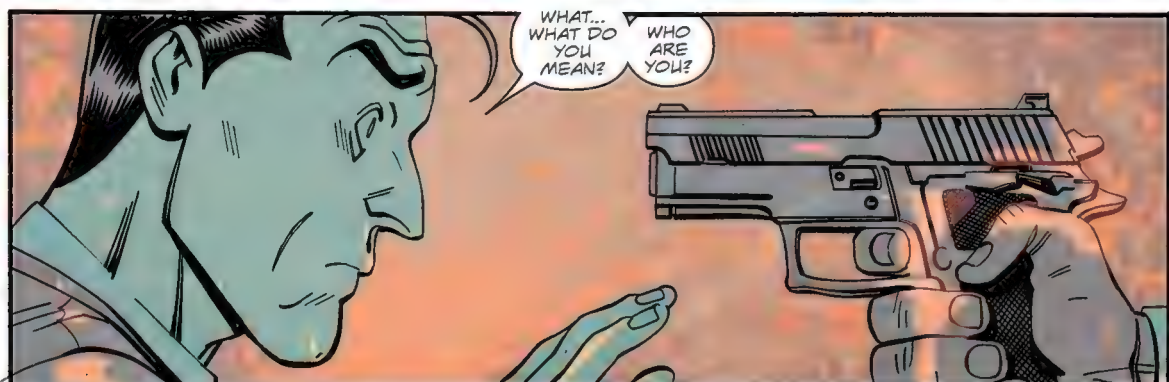
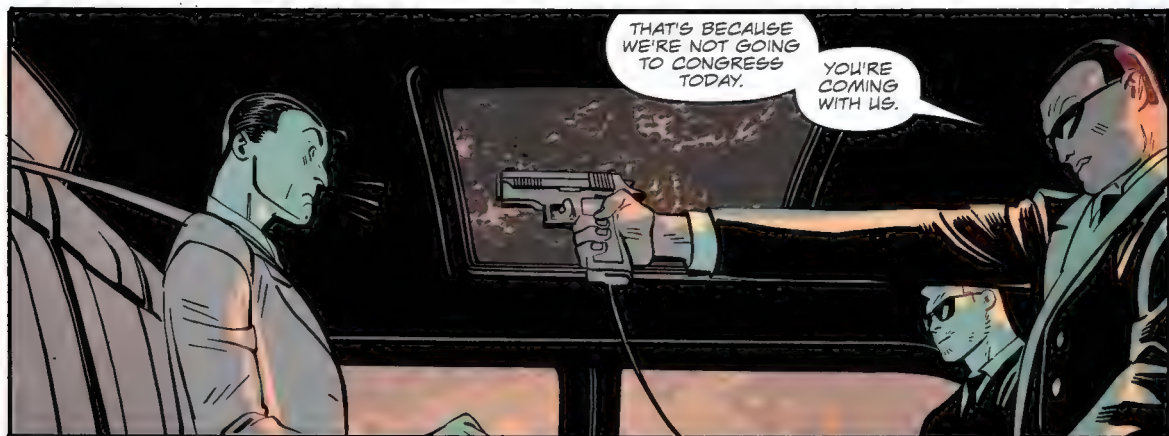
DIDN'T
YOU, DOCTOR...
VENOM?

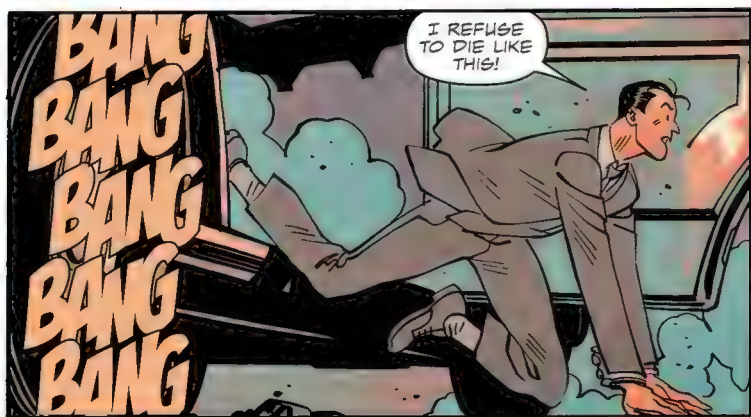


I HATE THAT
INSULTING
NICKNAME. THE
PRESS THOUGHT
THEY WERE SO
CLEVER.

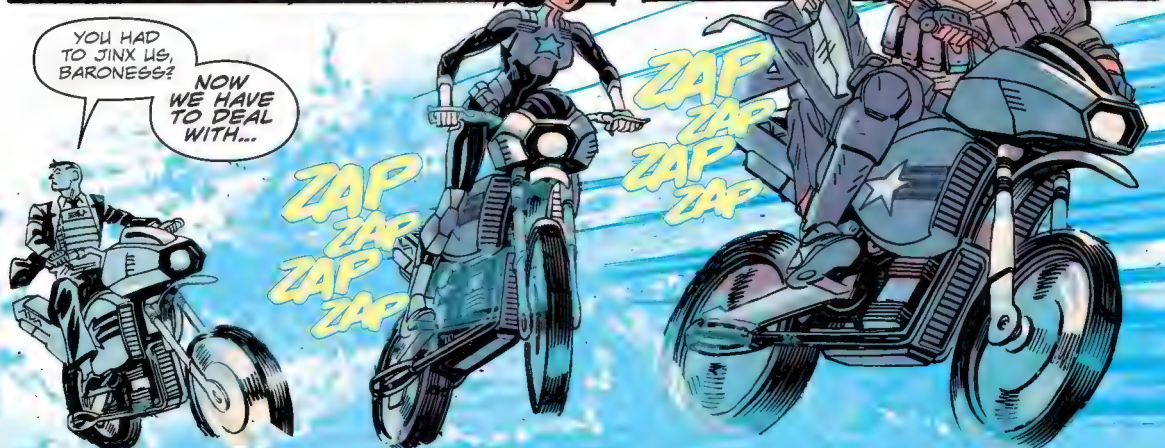
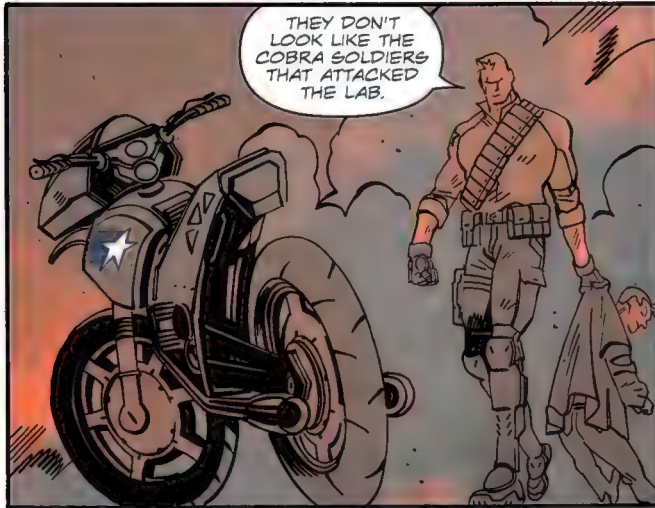
THERE
ARE PEOPLE
WHO WOULD
KILL FOR MY
BRAINWAVE
SCANNER.

WAIT...THIS...
THIS ISN'T THE
WAY TO
CONGRESS?









HAPPY NEW YEAR! What a KILLER final page for this epic issue...Joshua, Tom, Jordie and Rus are delivering a heavy weight fight for the ages with this opening arc! Editor Ben Abernathy at your service and joined by the Deacon of Destruction himself, Joshua Williamson!

Thank you for checking out our first issue! I know it was a doozy, and we're just getting started. By now you've read issues 2 and 3 and you can see we don't mess around. Lots of fun surprises coming to the Energon Universe!

Hey team,

Coming off the heels of four miniseries I absolutely adored, I just picked up G.I. Joe #1 and it was everything I wanted it to be. Joshua Williamson seems like the perfect architect to draft this new wave of Joe stories.

Thank you! It all comes from a place of respect and love for G.I. Joe.

But holy cow, where have y'all been hiding Tom Reilly?!?! He should be drawing every comic being published. I was unfamiliar with his work until I read Duke and I have been missing out. That dude is the best!

I've known Tom for a long time, and we've almost worked together a few times, but it never came together. I'm so glad it finally worked out on a massive book like DUKE and G.I. JOE so that people get to see how insanely talented Tom is on the big stage.

I've loved the Joes for my entire life. My birthday was actually the day the animated series debuted (September 12, 1983), so G.I. Joe has been a part of my life since I was born.

I'm really excited to see where the book will go and what comes next, but I have a few questions/suggestions:

1) Any chance Shipwreck is joining the Joes soon? He was my favorite growing up and I'd love to see him join the team.

2) Now that the main book is being published, is Skybound doing away with the miniseries? Those were insanely good and I think there are still so many great stories to be told. The Joes have so many good characters that could use an in-depth look and tell genre-specific stories. A Chuckles infiltration adventure? A Zartan heist? A Gung Ho military epic? I'll buy any Joe book you guys put out. At this point, you've earned it!

Right now, we have very long term plans for all of the G.I. Joe lore. Our hope is that if people want G.I Joe they get

everything they want in that ongoing series. We're taking our time laying the groundwork for a lot of characters and surprises. You'll see. No stone will be left unturned when it comes to the kind of stories we're going to tell.

That all being said...Shipwreck is one of my favorite G.I. Joes...

3) Spoiler for issue 1: Please let Rock 'N Roll be okay. I don't ask for much. Please just give me this.

Oh man...sorry, Jeff.

RIP RNR.

Yo Joe,
G.I. Jeff from Nashville

YO JOE!

Dear Joshua Williamson and Tom Reilly, and Robert Kirkman (if he reads these too), I just got my copy of G.I. Joe #1 and I loved it. I am so glad that you, Joshua Williamson and Tom Reilly, were the ones chosen to write and illustrate this series because Duke was my favorite of the G.I. Joe miniseries leading into this ongoing run. You brought everything I loved about Duke to G.I. Joe. Joshua also brought a lot of what I enjoyed about Cobra Commander to G.I. Joe, too. I enjoyed listening to Joshua and Tom's interviews on the Talking Joe podcast, particularly Joshua discussing his G.I. Joe Classified collection.

I've seen Joshua's collection first hand and it's impressive, lemme tell ya!

I do have all the Classified line. Haha.

Something I thought about a lot while working on the ongoing series was making sure we captured that same magic from DUKE and COBRA COMMANDER. That same level of energy and excitement. It's awesome to hear you say that we did just that!

I wish I lived in Massachusetts so I could go to Hub Comics this weekend to attend Tom's signing event for G.I. Joe #1. Oh well, the comic shops here in Kansas at least had enough copies of G.I. Joe #1. I can tell there was a lot of love and care put into G.I. Joe. I love how we see the Joes are just getting started with rigorous training routines and the use of parallelism between Duke and Destro in the first issue. I liked the introduction of Risk and I hope that he gets his figures soon. I also loved seeing the introduction of the Vipers with Mercer donning a Viper helmet. Poor Rock 'N Roll.

I also hope we get a Risk classified figure. That would be rad. I'm glad you

caught the parallels between Duke and Destro. Great that your comic shop had copies. Hopefully someday we'll be able to get those copies of #1 signed for you.

While Duke was my favorite of the G.I. Joe miniseries, I will just say Andrea Milana, Kelly Thompson, Marco Ferrari, Dan Watters, and Andrei Bressan deserve their flowers, too, for doing great work on Cobra Commander Scarlett, and Destro and would like to see more of them in the future of the Energon Universe. I am curious about a few things, firstly now that G.I. Joe has an ongoing run in full swing now can we expect other Hasbro properties like M.A.S.K. and Rom The Space Knight to join the Energon Universe in the near distant future?

Also can we expect to see Tiger Force, Night Force, Python Patrol, and The Steel Corps? I would like to see a Steel Corps Grunt rival a Viper Mercer. Will the Adventure Team appear in the Energon Universe? Could we expect a series which sees heroes from G.I. Joe, Transformers, Void Rivals, and other Hasbro properties like Rom & M.A.S.K. (should those get included in the Energon Universe) unite to form a Justice League or Avengers-style team like IDW's Revolutionaries? Or are these all trade secrets which I'm not supposed to know yet? In that case keep the answers short & sweet.

Sincerely,
Scotty

I think you'll know by now that at least one of those teams you flagged are making an appearance! Ultimately, our entire focus right now is to build out our three monthlies--VOID RIVALS, TRANSFORMERS, and G.I JOE--and make them sustainable and exciting. We appreciate your support, Scotty!

Clues have been placed in the books for some of what you're asking about but it's too soon to really talk about any of it. You know we love our secrets and surprises.

Hello again. I have so much to say, I don't quite know where to begin... but, I want to thank you once more for getting me back into the comic shop--please allow me to give them a shoutout: Infinity Flux in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They are the nicest and most knowledgeable people around...and they have an AWESOME comics shop!

Love to hear that. One of my biggest hopes for the Energon Universe and 2025 is that more comics drive people back into stores.

And: you guys are absolutely tearing it up with Transformers and Void Rivals--that Pythona cover? Wow!

She still needs a Classified figure, by

the way.

I love the core group you've assembled for Joe--I especially loved it when Stalker "one-upped" the Baroness.

Stalker and Clutch, along with the aforementioned (from my previous letter) Flash, are my favorite characters...and with the talk of laser weapons, I believe I see a need for Anthony S. Gambello getting some long overdue "screen time." Hint, hint, hint.

But what made me happiest is reading that you guys are in this for the long haul. DO take your time, allow the characters to "breathe," and please know you have a long time fan base--that's growing quickly with new recruits--who are along with you for the whole ride...which will hopefully span several years and issues...and, I hope, decades.

Finally, I hope there's an "Energon solution" to what happened on the final panel of Issue 1...and, I have to ask: was the Duke and Destro splash page (the combined mission briefing) a homage to the Joe video game advertisement from WAY back in the day? It's the first thing I thought when I saw it.

Joshua, Tom, Jordie, Rus--and everyone else: THANK YOU!

Sincerely,
James "Roland" Millsaps

We are in this for the long haul. It's an exciting time to be a G.I Joe fan, and we're really happy to be a part of it.

I did not homage that ad for the video game. I tracked it down, and I can totally see what you are saying. That's fun. I do love to pay homage to older G.I. Joe pieces, I haven't really considered the video games. I'll have to look into that.

And yeah, sorry about Rock 'N Roll. I'll be honest. That one hurt. I love that character and his introduction to the series is one of my favorites moments and pages in the DUKE series. I'm going to miss him and his attitude.

And that's a wrap, friends! PLEASE keep the letters rolling in and join us back here next month when things get REALLY intense!

-Ben

Thank you! I hope you continue to enjoy what we're doing. And keep your fingers crossed for our boy Clutch! He's in the viper's den!

-Josh

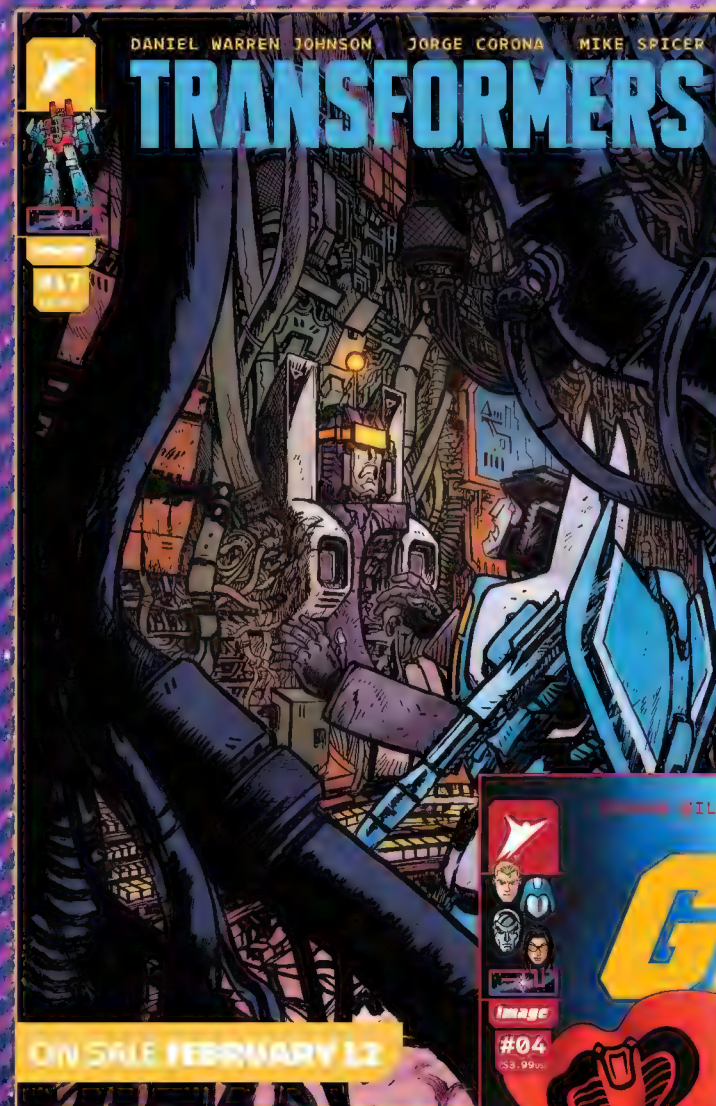
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MONTH IN THESE
TITLES!

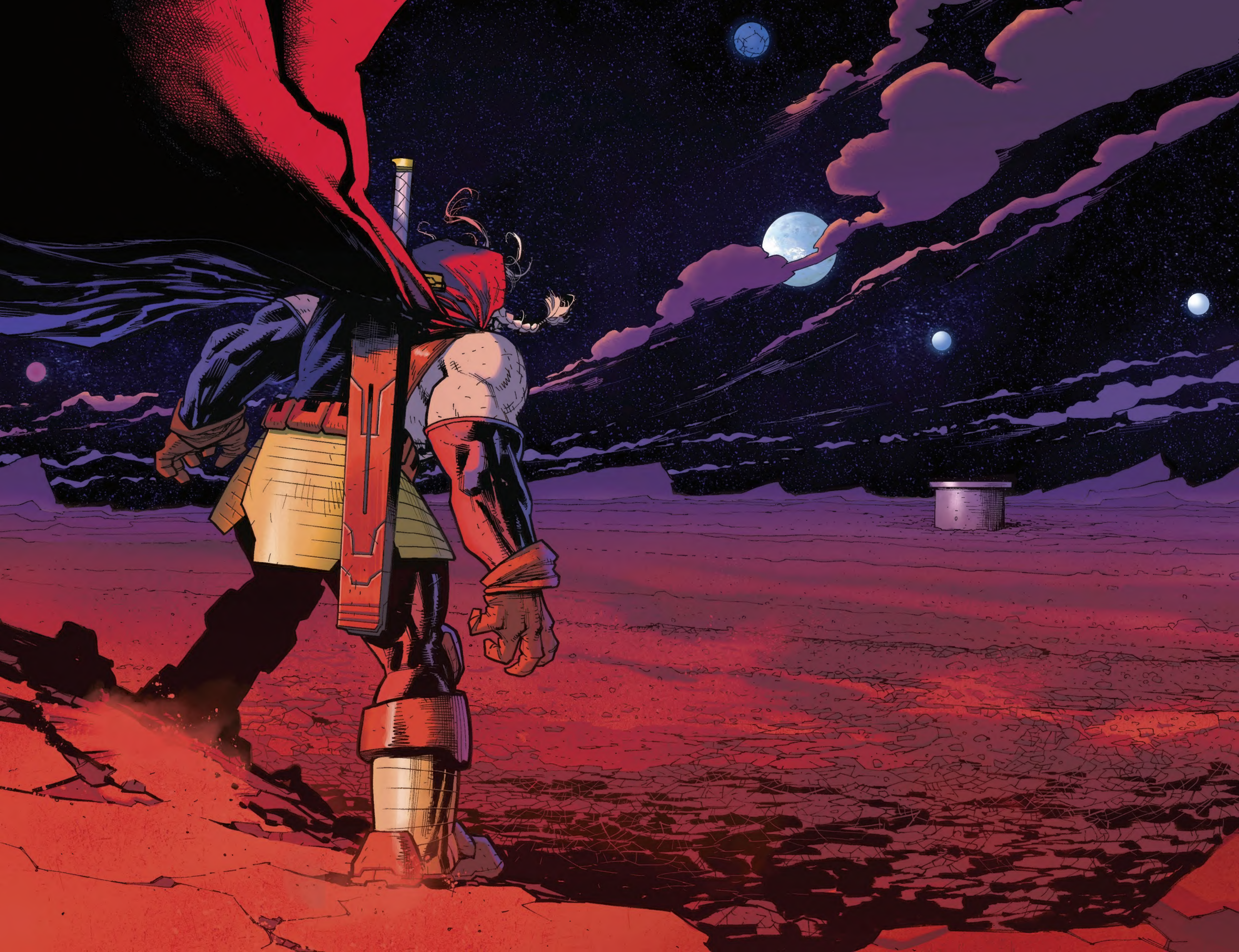
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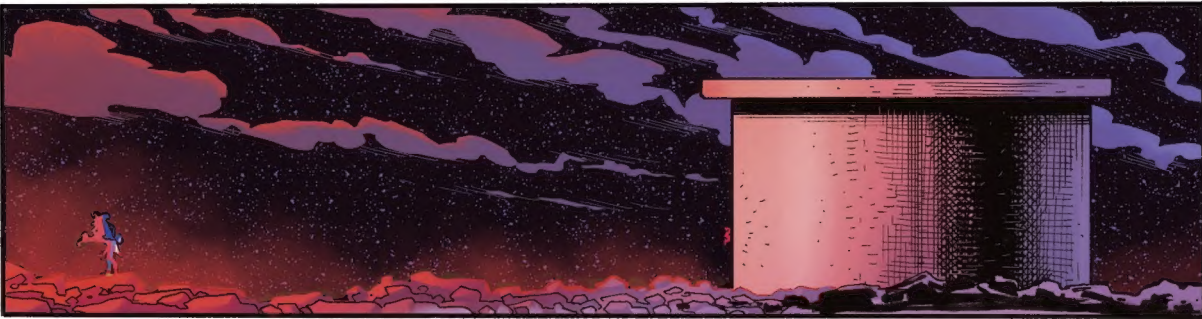


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